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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

IN RE:

ELAINE GREIDER, L.P.N.  
27 Pleasantville Avenue  
Oakville, Connecticut 06779

MEMORANDUM OF DECISION

The Board of Examiners for Nursing was presented by the Department of Health Services with a Notice of Hearing and Statement of Charges dated April 2, 1982.

The Statement of Charges alleged violations of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b). The Notice of Hearing provided that the hearing would take place on April 22, 1982 in the Department of Health Services, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut.

Each member of the Board of Examiners for Nursing involved in this decision attests that he/she has reviewed the record, and that this decision is based entirely on the record.

FACTS

1. Elaine Greider, respondent, was at all pertinent times licensed to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse in Connecticut, with registration number E-15120.

2. Pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 4-182(c), the respondent was provided a full opportunity prior to the institution of agency action to show compliance with all the terms for the retention of her license.

3. While employed as a licensed practical nurse at Waterbury Hospital, Waterbury, Connecticut, the respondent, for a period of some eleven or twelve months prior to December 4, 1981; a) diverted controlled substances; namely, Demerol and Morphine, to her own use; b) falsified hospital and/or patient records concerning controlled substances, namely, Demerol and Morphine, administered, dispersed or otherwise disposed of by her; and c) obtained for her own use a controlled substance, namely, Demerol from the hospital pharmacy.

4. The activities referenced in paragraph 3 were discovered by Drug Control Agent Barry N. Gordon during an investigation conducted during December, 1981.

#### DISCUSSION

##### FIRST COUNT

5. The First Count alleges that the respondent violated the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b) by unlawfully diverting controlled substances, namely, Demerol and Morphine, for her own use while employed as a licensed practical nurse at Waterbury Hospital. In pertinent part, § 20-99(b) forbids:

...(2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions...(5) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals.

The inescapable conclusion to draw from the facts found by the Board is that the respondent has violated Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b) as specified in the First Count.

SECOND COUNT

6. The Second Count alleges that the respondent violated the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b) by unlawfully falsifying hospital and/or patient records concerning controlled substances, namely, Demerol and Morphine, administered, dispersed or otherwise disposed of by her while she was employed as a licensed practical nurse at Waterbury Hospital. In pertinent part, § 20-99(b) forbids:

...(2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions...(6) fraud or material deception in the course of professional services or activities.

The inescapable conclusion to draw from the facts found by the Board is that the respondent has violated Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b) as specified in the Second Count.

THIRD COUNT

7. The Third Count alleges that the respondent violated the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b) by unlawfully obtaining for her own use a controlled substance, namely, Demerol, from the hospital pharmacy while she was employed as a licensed practical nurse at Waterbury Hospital. In pertinent part, § 20-99(b) forbids:

...(2) illegal conduct, incompetence or negligence in carrying out usual nursing functions...(5) abuse or excessive use of drugs, including alcohol, narcotics or chemicals.

The inescapable conclusion to draw from the facts found by the Board is that the respondent has violated Conn. Gen. Stat. § 20-99(b) as specified in the Third Count.

ORDER

8. It is the unanimous decision of the Board of Examiners for Nursing that:

a. The license of the respondent be suspended for a minimum period of two and one-half (2½) years determined as follows:

i. as to the First Count, suspension for a period of one (1) year;

ii. as to the Second Count, suspension for a period of six (6) months;

iii. as to the Third Count, suspension for a period of one (1) year.

iv. the periods of suspension listed in (i), (ii) and (iii) will run consecutively for a total effective suspension of two and one-half (2½) years, commencing August 15, 1982.

b. At the end of the two and one-half years specified in (a) the respondent may submit supportive documentation that she is not emotionally or physically addicted to medications, and may thereafter be reinstated.

9. The respondent, Elaine Greider, L.P.N., is hereby directed to surrender her license and current registration to the Board of Examiners for Nursing, 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106 by August 15, 1982.

10. The Board of Examiners for Nursing herewith advises

the Department of Health Services of the State of Connecticut of this decision and directs that the registration license of Elaine Greider, L.P.N., be suspended in accordance herewith.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this *21<sup>st</sup>* day of *July*, 1982.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR NURSING

BY: *Bette Jane M. Murphy, R.N.*  
BETTE JANE M. MURPHY, R.N.  
Chairman